

J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College
Course Content Summary

Course Prefix and Number: ART 121

Credits: 4

Course Title: Drawing I

Course Description: Develops basic drawing skills and understanding of visual language through studio instruction/lecture. Introduces concepts, such as proportion, space, perspective, tone, and composition as applied to still life, landscape, and the figure. Uses drawing media, such as pencil, charcoal, ink wash, and color media. Includes field trips and gallery assignments as appropriate. Part I of II. Lecture 2 hours. Studio instruction 4 hours. Total 6 hours per week.

General Course Purpose: This course will satisfy a Humanities/Fine Arts elective, and will also serve to inform anyone wanting to know more about drawing techniques.

Course Prerequisites and Co-requisites:

Prerequisites: None

Student Learning Outcomes:

Upon completing the course, the student will be able to

- a. Recognize the basic elements in drawing, including: line, form, value, space, and texture;
- b. Apply the basic concepts of drawing with an understanding of proportion and composition;
- c. Recognize linear perspective and other spatial systems;
- d. Achieve, review, and apply a knowledge of the history of drawing and drawing trends/styles;
- e. Examine and experiment with expressive approaches to drawing; and
- f. Apply knowledge about drawing, materials, tools, and techniques.

Major Topics to Be Included:

- a. Free-hand articulation of form and space
 - 1) Elements of drawing
 - a) Line--types, quality, spatial characteristics
 - b) Form--space and volume
 - i) Manifestation of surface
 - ii) Alone and in relation to other objects
 - c) Value gradation--to describe structure, weight, light, and space
 - d) Spatial concepts--positive and negative space, solids, and voids
 - e) Surface texture--actual, simulated, invented
 - 2) Proportional relationships
 - 3) Composition--form (visual organization)
- b. Spatial awareness/perception--eye levels and baselines (conventional artistic devices)
 - 1) Overlapping planes
 - 2) Size relationships
 - 3) Placement in picture plane
 - 4) Value contrast
 - 5) Convergence
 - 6) Optical clarity/focus
 - 7) Atmospheric effect
 - 8) Linear perspective--one-point and multiple point

- c. Historical perspective
 - 1) Review of drawing styles/trends
 - 2) Introduction to the work of selected artists
- d. Expressive approaches to drawing
 - 1) Combining visual world imagery with imaginary imagery
 - 2) Distortion of form
 - 3) Exploration of the different expressive qualities in different dry and wet drawing media

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